Statement

List of Schemes being implemented

1. Soil Conservation in the catchments of River Valley Projects/Flood Prone Rivers.
2. National Watershed Development Project in Rainfed Areas.
3. Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas in NE Region.
4. Integrated Crop Development Programme for Rice, Wheat and Coarse Cereals.
5. Scheme on Balanced and integrated use of Fertilizers.
6. Scheme on Quality Control Arrangement on Seeds.
7. Integrated Pest Management Scheme.
8. Scheme on promotion of Agricultural Equipments in N.E. States.

Changes proposed in New Agricultural Insurance Scheme

898. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether suggestions for changes in the proposed New Agricultural Insurance Scheme has been received by Government;

(b) if so, its details; and

(c) the action proposed to accept the proposals submitted by the Andhra Pradesh Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARANAYA RAO): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Some State Governments (including Andhra Pradesh) have given suggestions for changes in the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS). Main suggestions are:—

(i) Sharing of risk between Government of India (GOI) and State Government should be in the ratio of 2:1

(ii) Creation of 'Corpus Fund' may be dropped.

(iii) Administrative expenditure and the bank charges should be borne by the GOI.

(iv) Expenditure on crop cutting experiments and other incidental expenditure should be shared between GOI and the State Government in the ratio of 2 : 1 States like Rajasthan have suggested that cost of strengthening of crops cutting machinery and publicity expenses should be fully borne by the GOI or atleast on matching basis with the State Governments.

(v) Sunset arrangements for taking away the benefit of subsidised premium to small and marginal farmers need reconsideration.

(vi) It is suggested that till consultations are held CCIS may be continued.

These suggestions would be considered at the time of review of the scheme next year.

Losses due to floods in Himachal Pradesh

899. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the Total loss of life and property due to floods in Himachal Pradesh during the year 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99, district-wise;

(b) what assistance or relief have been provided by Government of India in each district of such calamity; and

(c) if answer of part (b) above be in the negative, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c) Assistance is provided to the State as a whole and not district-wise, for undertaking relief and rehabilitation measures in the wake of all natural calamities. The details of funds allocated under Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) and assistance provided under National